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FEB 2 2 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 2222 -2 Confirmation No. N/A

Appl. No.

CHADENAL!

10/803,945

Applicant

K. SHIMOOKA et al.

Filed

March 19, 2004

Title

DATA PROTECTING APPARATUS AND METHOD,

AND COMPUTER SYSTEM

TC/AU

TBD

Examiner

TBA

Docket No. :

TSM-37

Customer No.:

24956

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Mail Stop 16

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Applicants request a refund in the above-identified application due to an error Sir: on the part of the Patent Office.

On January 13, 2005, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement. The Information Disclosure Statement was filed prior to the mailing of the first Office Action in the application.

However, the Applicant's representatives Monthly Statement of Account for January 2005 (copy enclosed) indicates that an Information Disclosure Statement filing fee was charged to the deposit account on January 19, 2005, even though there should have been no charge for the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

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Appl. No. 10/803,945 Request for Refund dated February 22, 2005 **TSM-37**

Please credit a refund in the amount of \$180.00 to the Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

Shrinath Malur

Reg. No. 34,663 (703) 684-1120 Deposit Account Statement





Deposit Account Statement

Requested Statement Month:

January 2005

Deposit Account Number:

501417

MATTINGLY STANGER & MALUR, P.C.

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Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop DD P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

UNDER § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Sir:

1. This IDS should be considered:

- (a) when filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or within three months of the filing date of the National Stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last;
- (b) when filed before the mailing date of either a Final Rejection under § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first and when 1(a) does not apply. For this purpose, there is included herein either a certification in section 4 below (included when indicated by a marked box), or a fee of \$180.00 (a Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed, or if not see section 5 below);
- (c) when filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee, when 1(a)-(b) do not apply, and when a certification is

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Adjustment date: 05/03/2005 SDIRETA1
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